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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 156166

17
ORIGIN EA-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66611
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APPROVED BY: EA/PRCM:TSBROOKS
---------- 043479
R 182257Z JUL 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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FOLLOWING RZPEAT MEXICO 4777 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
PEKING 11 JUNE.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SGEN, CH, MX
SUBJECT: PRC INVITATION TO AMBASSADOR

REF: PEKING 959 AND PREVIOUS

1. IN AFTERNOON OF JUNE 10 AMBASSADOR AND MRS. JOVA
RECEIVED INVITATION FROM PRC AMBASSADOR YAO KUANG, TO
ATTEND INAUGURAL DEMONSTRATION OF THE TRADITIONAL CHINESE
SPORT "WUSHU", AND A RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE PERFORMANCE.
THE JOVAS WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND (THE OPENING PERFORMANCE
OF THE HARLEM BALLET WAS THE SAME EVENING, JUNE 10) SO SENT TWO
POLOFFS IN THEIR PLACE. CHIEF OF VISA SECTION ALSO
RECEIVED BLOC OF TICKETS, AND STAFF AID USED ONE.

2. AFTER TOURING MEXICO, TROOP REPORTEDLY WILL PERFORM
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IN HAWAII, WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK, HENCE INTEREST IN

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VISAS (SEE REFTEL). PERFORMANCE SPONSORED BY PRC GOVERNMENT AND MEXICAN SPORTS CONFEDERATION (A NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION). GROUP'S EXHIBITION SINGULARLY DEVOID OF PROPAGANDA CONTENT. NOR WAS AUDIENCE NOTABLY POLITICAL IN ORIENTATION. IN AFTER-SHOW RECEPTION TROUPE PROVED THEMSELVES TO BE FRIENDLY, EXUBERANT AND ALTOGETHER ENGAGING YOUNG PEOPLE (YOUNGEST BEING ABOUT 10 YEARS, AND RANGING TO PERHAPS 22 YEARS).

3. OTHERS AT LARGE, WELL-CATERED RECEPTION WERE DIPLOMATS (CHINESE AND A FEW OTHERS), SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS AND MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL CHINESE COMMUNITY. POLOFFS MADE AMBASSADOR JOVA'S REGRETS TO AMBASSADOR YAO, WHO WAS CORDIAL, SPOKE A FEW WORDS OF ENGLISH, AND APPEARED QUITE INTERESTED IN THE PROBLEM OF GROUP RECEIVING VISAS TO TOUR US.

4. THIS IS THE FIRST INVITATION EXTENDED BY THE PRC EMBASSY TO THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR HERE (AMBASSADOR JOVA MADE HIS COURTESY CALL ON AMBASSADOR YAO MARCH 27). THE OCCASION WAS OF COURSE QUITE APPROPRIATE SINCE THE TROUPE GOES TO THE US AFTER MEXICO.
JOVA UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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